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Letter dated 3 September 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention a statement by the Presidency of the European Union on Cambodia, issued on 3 September 1998 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a General Assembly document under item 113 of the provisional agenda.

(*Signed*) Ernst **Sucharipa**
Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations

* A/53/150.

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Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement by the Presidency of the European Union on Cambodia issued on 3 September 1998

The European Union has followed with great attention the political developments in Cambodia, especially the national elections on 26 July 1998. Recalling its statement of 31 July 1998, it has taken note of the official election results announced by the National Election Commission on 1 September 1998.

The European Union was deeply involved in the electoral process, both in voter registration and polling observation. The very high percentage of voters who registered and cast their ballot proved that the Cambodian people have a strong desire for democracy and wish to decide their own political future.

The European Union feels that with the announcement of the official results the time has come for all parties to take a constructive approach. They should now come together in a peaceful way in order to ensure the timely convening of the new Parliament and the formation of a new government that can work effectively for the reconstruction of the country, thus bringing back well-being and prosperity to the people of Cambodia. The European Union recalls that the Cambodian Constitution accords King Sihanouk the role of supreme arbitrator in order to ensure the proper functioning of the Government.

The European Union also calls upon all parties to refrain from any kind of activity that could lead to new tensions or violence and to facilitate the process of national reconciliation.